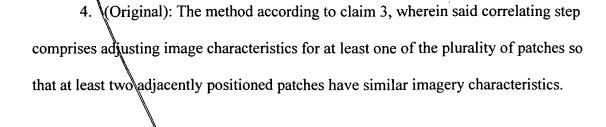<u>Amendments to the Claims:</u>

Please cancel claims 19, 31-36, 39 and 40 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend claims 9-11, 13, 17, 20, 37, 38 and 41-45 without prejudice, and please add new claims 46-50 as follows:

1. (Original): A method of compiling aerial imagery and generating a map there from comprising the steps of:

digitally watermarking image data to include imagery characteristics corresponding to the image data, the image data acquired by an aerial platform;

correlating the image data based on the imagery characteristics; and

generating a map from the correlated image data.

2. (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the imagery characteristics comprise at least one of scale, rotation, altitude, attitude, resolution, time, imaging device type, azimuth and skew.

3. (Original): The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of segmenting the image data into a plurality of patches, and wherein said digital watermarking step comprises embedding a watermark in each of the plurality of patches, the watermark including imagery characteristics for its respective patch.

4. (Original): The method according to claim 3, wherein said correlating step comprises adjusting image characteristics for at least one of the plurality of patches so that at least two adjacently positioned patches have similar imagery characteristics.

5. (Original): The method according to claim 3, wherein said generating step comprises the step of quilting the plurality of patches together to generate the map.

6. (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the aerial platform comprises at least one of satellite, airplane, space shuttle, and unmanned aircraft.

7. (Original): A method of managing aerial imagery comprising the steps of:

watermarking patches of the aerial imagery, wherein each patch includes at least one watermark, the at least one watermark including an index;

storing in a database a plurality of data records corresponding to a range of watermark indexes, wherein the data records comprise imagery characteristics.

8. (Original): The method according to claim 7, wherein said imagery characteristics comprise at least one of scale, rotation, altitude, attitude, resolution, time, imaging device type, and skew.

9. (Currently Amended): A method of generating a <u>geo-spatial</u> map comprising the steps of:

steganographically encoding data in the form of a digital watermark <u>component</u> in each of a plurality of <u>image</u> patches, said encoded data including a location indicator; and

piecing together the plurality of image patches based at least in part on the location indicator.

10. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 9, wherein the location indicator identifies the geo-coordinates of <u>its respective image</u> [the] patch, <u>with each of the plurality of image patches including a unique location identifier representing unique geo-coordinates</u>.

11. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 10, wherein <u>at least one of</u> the location <u>indicators</u> [indicator] identifies the geo-coordinates for <u>at least one</u> [each] corner of <u>its</u> [the] respective patch.

12. (Original): The method according to claim 9, wherein the location indicator identifies a respective patch location relative to the map.

13. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 9, wherein the location indicator identifies the respective patch location <u>within the geo-spatial map</u> relative to at least one adjacent patch.
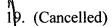
14. (Original): The method according to claim 9, wherein the location indicator comprises an index, and said method further comprises the step of indexing a database with the index to retrieve location information.

15. (Original): A method of correlating imagery data generated under a plurality of different conditions, said method comprising the step of:

embedding imagery characteristics in the imagery data; and

modifying the imagery data based on the embedded imagery characteristics so as to standardize at least some of the imagery data.

16. (Original): The method according to claim 15, wherein said conditions comprise at least one of aerial platforms, altitude, time, cloud cover, resolution and scale.

17. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 15, wherein said imagery characteristics affect a spatial domain representation of the imagery data, said imagery characteristics comprising [comprise] at least one of scale, rotation, altitude, attitude, resolution, time, imaging device type, and skew.

18. (Original): The method according to claim 15, wherein said imagery characteristics comprise an index which is used to identify at least one of scale, rotation, altitude, attitude, resolution, time, imaging device type, and skew.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended): A data structure stored on a computer readable medium, the data structure comprising an [aerial] image captured from an aerial platform, the image including embedded data in the form of a digital watermark, said digital watermark including imagery characteristics, wherein said imagery characteristics relate to a spatial domain representation of the aerial image.

21. (Original): The data structure according to claim 20, wherein said imagery characteristics comprise an index which is used to identify at least one of scale, rotation, altitude, attitude, resolution, time, imaging device type, and skew.
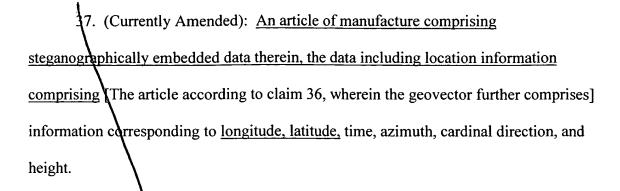
22. (Original): The data structure according to claim 20, wherein said imagery characteristics comprise at least one of scale, rotation, altitude, attitude, resolution, time, imaging device type, and skew.

23. (Original): A method of marking a photograph comprising the steps of:

obtaining geovector information corresponding to a location depicted in the photograph; and

digitally watermarking the geovector information in the photograph.

24. (Original): The method according to claim 23, wherein geovector information comprises at least longitude and latitude coordinates.
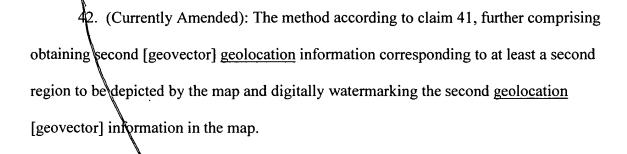
25. (Original): The method according to claim 24, wherein said geovector information further comprises at least height, time, cardinal direction, and azimuth.

26. (Original): The method according to claim 23, wherein the geovector information comprises a pointer.

27. (Original): The method according to claim 26, further comprising the steps of storing geovector information in a database and accessing the geovector information via the pointer.

28. (Original): The method according to claim 23, wherein the geovector information is obtained from a GPS receiver.

29. (Original): The method according to claim 23, wherein the geovector information is obtained after the photograph is taken.

30. (Original): The method according to claim 23, further comprising the step of accessing a database to obtain information regarding the area depicted in the photograph.

31-36 (Cancelled)

37. (Currently Amended): <u>An article of manufacture comprising</u> <u>steganographically embedded data therein, the data including location information</u> <u>comprising</u> [The article according to claim 36, wherein the geovector further comprises] information corresponding to <u>longitude, latitude,</u> time, azimuth, cardinal direction, and height.

38. (Currently Amended): The article according to claim 37, <u>wherein the article</u> <u>comprises an image captured from an aerial platform, the aerial platform including an</u> <u>image capture sensor, and</u> wherein the [geovector] <u>location information</u> further comprises information corresponding to sensor geometry <u>of the image capture sensor.</u>

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Currently Amended): <u>A method of making a map comprising the steps of:</u> <u>obtaining first geolocation information corresponding to at least a first region to</u> <u>be depicted by the map; and</u> <u>digitally watermarking the first geolocation information in the map,</u> [The method according to claim 40,] wherein said watermarking step comprises embedding the first [geovector] <u>geolocation</u> information only in the first region.

42. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 41, further comprising obtaining second [geovector] <u>geolocation</u> information corresponding to at least a second region to be depicted by the map and digitally watermarking the second <u>geolocation</u> [geovector] information in the map.

43. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 42, wherein said the second <u>geolocation</u> [geovector] information is only embedded in the second region.

44. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim <u>41,</u> [40,] wherein the first region comprises at least one of a fire hydrant, tree, road, building, lake, stream, forest, manhole, water line, gas line, power line, park, property line, fence, boarder, depot, geographical area, stadium, hospital, school, church, store and airport.

45. (Currently Amended): <u>A method of making a map comprising the steps of:</u>

<u>obtaining first geovector information corresponding to at least a first region to be depicted by the map; and</u>

<u>digitally watermarking the first geovector information in the map,</u> [The method according to claim 40,] wherein said watermarking step comprises digitally watermarking the first geovector information redundantly throughout the map.

46. (New): A method of steganographically marking imagery captured from an aerial platform, said method comprising the steps of:

obtaining first geolocation information corresponding to a first region depicted in the imagery captured from the aerial platform; and

embedding the first geolocation information in the imagery captured from the aerial platform in the form of a digital watermark.

47. (New): The method of claim 46 wherein the first geolocation information is embedded only in the first region.

48. (New): The method according to claim 46, further comprising obtaining second geolocation information corresponding to at least a second region depicted in the imagery captured from the aerial platform and embedding the second geolocation information in the imagery captured from the aerial platform in the form of a digital watermark.

49. (New): The method according to claim 48, wherein the second geolocation information is embedded only in the second region.

50. (New): The method of claim 46, wherein the first geolocation information is redundantly embedded in the imagery captured from the aerial platform.